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Demographers

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
REGIONAL POPULATION TRAINING INSTITUTES
PROGRESS REPORT

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I. Introduction

1. Reference is made to the paper entitled "An overview of the training of specialists in planning, statistics and demography" (E/ECA/PSD.3/11) presented to the plenary session and the paper entitled "Report on Population Activities in 1982-83 and Programme of Work for 1984-85" (E/ECA/PSD.3/27) which is presented to the Demographic Committee. Both of these papers discuss demographic training at the two African regional institutes - the Institute de formation et de Recherche Démographiques (IFORD) located at Yaounde and the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) located in Accra. The objective of this paper is thus to bring to the attention of the Demographic Committee the main points dealt with in the two previous papers and to concentrate on reviewing the operational problems faced by the two regional institutes IFORD and RIPS as well as what action the secretariat has taken or proposes to take in solving these problems. The Demographic Committee is invited to discuss these problems with a view to making recommendations for handling them within the framework of an improved future operation of the two institutes. The committee is also invited to give suggestions about the future orientation of the institutes.

2. The ECA secretariat continued to be responsible for the management of the two regional population training institutes. This responsibility was assumed by the ECA during 1980-1981 pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 32/179. The amended statutes for both institutes, which provide for their regionalisation, were approved by the Eight Meeting of the Conference of Ministers held in Tripoli in 1982 and adopted by decision 37/444 of December 1982 by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

3. The basic objective of the courses given at the Regional Training Institutes is to give students a solid theoretical training in demography, practical experience in data collection and analysis, research as well as an understanding of population trends and their relation to socio-economic factors.

II. IFORD - Training and Research

4. The main training course at IFORD is a two year course leading to the Diplome d'Etudes Démographiques. Entry to the course is by a competitive examination. Students follow courses in demography, surveys, quantitative methods and other subjects such as population and development.

5. First year students also organize a field survey and spend almost one quarter of their time implementing it and processing the data collected. During the second year of the course, the students analyse the data. Between 1973 and 1983, IFORD admitted 148 students, out of whom 133 successfully completed the two year course. During the next four years IFORD plans to admit 20 students each year.

6. IFORD, also conducts a one year course on introduction to research for graduates from the diploma course. The students take part in the research activities of the Institute and also conduct individual research work under the supervision of more experienced demographers. An average of three demographers have taken this course each year.

7. IFORD organises at the national level short term middle level courses of about six weeks' duration on demography and social statistics. In addition to this IFORD organises annually refresher courses of about four weeks' duration based on a particular theme of interest to African demographers.

8. IFORD continued its research and publications activities. Surveys have been carried out in five African cities (Yaounde, Ouagadougou, Lome, Cotonou and Libreville) on infant and child mortality using a methodology designed by IFORD. During the next four years, the research activities at IFORD will concentrate on the analyses of the data collected from these surveys. IFORD's publications hold an important place in its activities as it promotes research activities in the member countries. Since 1979 IFORD has published the "African Demography Newsletter" which gives information on demographic activities and work done in the region. Since 1975 it has also produced "Les Annals de l'IFORD" which publishes research works undertaken at the Institute.

III. RIPS - Training and Research

9. The main training course at RIPS is a one year course leading to the Graduate Diploma in Population Studies of the University of Ghana. This course consists of intensive training in Technical Demography, Mathematics and Statistics, Substantive Demography, Economics and Sociology. Students also receive training in planning and executing field surveys as well as basic research methods. In addition RIPS conducts a course of guided research lasting some eighteen months and leading to the Master of Arts in Population Studies degree. Entry to this course is open to persons with the Graduate Diploma or an equivalent qualification and consists of both course work and research. There is also provision for a Ph.D. degree course.

10. Between 1972 and 1982 RIPS admitted 276 students into the Graduate Diploma course. Of this number 19 did not complete the course, 23 persons are still undergoing training, while 201 have successfully completed the course. During the same period, 81 students were admitted into the Master of Arts course, of whom 33 were awarded the degree. In addition five theses have been passed subject to revision, while nine theses have been submitted for examination and work is going on on 24 theses.

11. During the next four years RIPS plans to admit annually into the Graduate Diploma and Master of Arts courses, some 30 and 10 students respectively. Action has also been taken to transform the Graduate Diploma into a Master of Arts degree and the Master of Arts into a Master of Philosophy degree.

12. Apart from these regular courses, RIPS has assisted in the carrying out of ad-hoc training programmes for middle level personnel in the countries it serves. It is also planned that courses for population experts which deal with specialised topics will be held annually. One such course for 44 persons was held in July 1983 on "Fertility and Mortality Estimation Methods in Africa".

13. Advisory services have also been provided to Governments in the region and the international agencies. For example, RIPS in collaboration with ECA was responsible for conducting five demographic surveys which have formed the basis of planning the relocation of the capital city of Nigeria. The results of this joint ECA-RIPS effort has been published in four volumes. Having regard to its enhanced staff capabilities, RIPS intends to expand its advisory services consistent with this not adversely influencing its training programmes.

14. RIPS has been very active in research. Students working for the Masters degree carry out research on topics selected with the advice of their sponsoring organizations. Field work on these topics is undertaken in the students' home countries. In respect of Institute research, interesting results have been obtained on indirect estimation

methods, which have been reported on a the seminar on 'Fertility and Mortality Estimation Methods in Africa' and which will be published shortly. Work in this area and on a generalized stable population theory will be continued over the next four years and will be supported through the establishment of a population laboratory in Ghana.

15. In the field of information dissemination, RIPS publishes three newsletters - 'RIPS Newsletter', 'African Demography' and 'PIDSA Newsletter', giving information on work going on in the Institute and in the population field in Africa. A bi-annual abstract journal "PIDSA ABSTRACTS" is published under the Population Information and Documentation System for Africa (PIDSA). A training workshop for population information documentalists has been conducted and two manuals on population information and documentation published, while a source book on population information in Africa is under preparation.

IV. Main Problems Encountered at IFORD

Academic and Administrative Problems

16. Early in 1983 a UNFPA Evaluation mission visited IFORD and raised a number of queries. Some of these queries have been raised before and are summarized below:

17. The main criticism of the entry examination is that it is mainly a test of mathematics and statistics. The examination tends to discourage candidates who had completed their university education some years previously and who have had experience working in statistical offices. It also discourages students who do not have advanced knowledge of mathematics and statistics.

18. As regards the academic programme, it has been criticised as containing excessive mathematics, theoretical statistics and model building and data collection and too little on demographic analysis. This criticism was made by the UNFPA Evaluation Mission of 1976-1977 and again by the UNFPA Evaluation Mission of 1983.

19. As regards the IFORD Diploma, some countries still do not recognise its level when providing jobs to IFORD graduates. Criticism has been made that no external examiners are involved in grading students as passed or failed at the end of their course.

20. Criticism has been made of the suitability of some of the experts at IFORD. Only two have a demographic background. Three have qualifications only in statistics and economics, four are holders of the IFORD diploma, and none of the heads of Units is a demographer.

21. Steps are being taken to set up an evaluation committee to study these criticisms as well as the proposal to integrate IFORD into the University of Yaounde. The main arguments used for such an integration are that it will legitimise the IFORD diploma improve the system of admission and the selection of academic staff as well as broadening the students intellectual horizon.

22. IFORD has faced problems in the development of its research activities because of the priority given to training and the lack of personnel and financial resources to undertake research.

23. One of IFORD's tasks is to promote and strengthen demographic research in the countries it serves. This involves the carrying out of research work, the issuing of

publications in order to disseminate information and knowledge of African populations and to organize scientific meetings at which work done in the region can be presented and discussed by demographers working in the African region. More funds are needed for such activities.

24. IFORD has carried out surveys on Infant and Child Mortality in five African cities using methodology developed at IFORD. Due to financial constraints however, these surveys cannot be carried out in other cities. It is suggested therefore that during the next four years IFORD's research programme will concentrate mainly in the processing and analysis of data collected in these surveys.

25. IFORD has also faced administrative and financial management problems. These relate to the receipt and disbursement of extrabudgetary funds, the accounting system, the administration of staff and fellowships etc. Improvements are being made and it is expected that with the appointment of competent administrative and financial personnel the situation would greatly improve. ECA will also take up its monitoring role in the near future and regular missions will be undertaken to monitor closely the functioning of the institute.

V. Funding Problems

26. Perhaps the most crucial problem facing IFORD is that its main funding source, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) has decided to reduce its funding level from $ 858,000 in 1983 to $ 700,000 in 1984 i.e. by almost 20 per cent, UNFPA has explained that this sharp reduction was due to the previous level of funding which was the highest for any training institution. The UNFPA evaluation mission to IFORD examined the implications of the funding cuts and recommended that funds by UNFPA will among other things cover the salaries of four international staff: one as a director, one expert on formal demography, one expert on research methodology, statistics and sampling and one expert on population, development planning and socio-economic interrelations. Presently IFORD has six international staff apart from one expert provided by the French Government and three provided by the Cameroon Government.

27. UNFPA has pledged to continue to finance the institute for the next few years but has indicated that such financing will be drastically reduced after this. It is with this in mind that thought should be given to the idea of integrating the institute fully into the University of Yaounde. This will in the long term assure the existence of facilities for demographic training in the African region.

28. The 1982 meeting of the IFORD Governing Council recommended that the staff provided by the Cameroon Government should be given priority when international staff are recruited for IFORD. With the present funding constraints and with the existing rules for the recruitment of international staff it may be difficult to implement this proposal.

29. With the regionalization of the institute, the 25 countries served by IFORD are to be partially responsible for financing the institute. The 1982 Governing Council fixed the contributions of the member countries at CFA 7,000,000 each for 1982 and 1983. These funds would be used for paying the salaries of local staff, purchases of minor equipment as well as the financing of the Governing Council and Consultative Committee meetings. As of September 1983 only six of the member countries had paid contributions to IFORD. Benin, Cameroon and Congo paid their contributions for the two years whilst Senegal and Centrafrique paid for one year

and Guinea for 3 years. These contributions amounted to 37.9 million FCFA i.e. only 22 per cent of the amount expected if all the 25 member countries had paid their contributions. Consequently, IFORD has faced and still faces problems of paying the salaries of local staff. It is suggested that delegates should follow up with the relevant ministries in their countries so that contributions to IFORD are paid.

30. It is feared that the proposed UNFPA funding cuts coupled with the non-payment of the contributions of most of the member countries, would adversely affect the future efficient functioning of IFORD. The member countries should consequently reinforce their financial support to IFORD.

VI. Main Problems Encountered at RIPS

Academic and Administrative Problems

31. Early in 1983 a UNFPA Evaluation Mission visited RIPS and raised a number of queries. Some of these queries are dealt with below.

32. The general diploma course at RIPS has been criticised as being dominated by lectures and that there is little time for individual reading. Presently however the course is being restructured to raise it to a 12 month Masters Degree course. A curriculum revision committee has been set up to restructure the course and cut down the work load whilst ensuring that lecture hours are reduced without a reduction in course content.

33. Although the M.A. course is theoretically designed to take 12 months after successful completion of the diploma course, students never finish their dissertations in time and may take over two years to complete the course. This is partly because in most cases the students undertake field work in their countries of origin which takes up a considerable amount of time. When they return to RIPS processing and analysis of the data also takes a long time and students face considerable problems as RIPS presently does not have its own computer. It has been proposed that students should either go to RIPS with data from their home countries or should use data on African populations available at RIPS. This would eliminate the expensive and time consuming need to travel to their home countries to carry out field work. It is now hoped that a computer and ancillary software will be available early in 1984, as funds have now been allocated for this. The computer will not only further RIPS' research activities but will help M.A. students in processing the data for their theses.

34. Criticism has been made of the current practice of using Ghanaian M.A. students as research assistants. Many of these students receive a salary from the Government department that sent them to RIPS, a UN Fellowship plus a salary as research assistant paid by the institute. In the context of the present economic situation in Ghana, these students have no incentive to finish their thesis quickly. It is suggested that with the regionalization of the institute this practice should be discontinued as it is financially wasteful and non productive.

35. RIPS also has some administrative problems. These relate to the operation and control of non-UNFPA funds and administrative procedures regarding fellowships. These problems may be reduced consequent upon the recent improvements in the administrative capacity of the institute and the transfer to it of the control of its funds. ECA will also take up its monitoring role in the near future and regular missions will be undertaken to monitor closely the functioning of the institute.

VII. Funding and other Problems

36. Perhaps the most crucial problem facing RIPS is that its main funding source, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities has decided to reduce its funding level from $ 865,250 in 1983 to $ 700,000 in 1984 i.e. by almost 20 per cent. UNFPA has explained that this sharp reduction was due to the previous high level of funding. UNFPA has pledged to continue to finance the institute for the next few years but has indicated that such financing will be reduced drastically after this. Thought therefore needs to be given to the long term funding of the institute and to measures that may be necessary to assure the continued existence of facilities for demographic training in the African region.

37. Like IFORD, UNFPA proposes that only four international positions would be funded. These are the post of director, one expert on population - development planning and socio-economic interrelations, one expert on formal demography, and a fourth expert on research methodology, statistics and sampling. Presently RIPS has six international posts. It is feared that the proposed cuts coupled with the possible loss of professional staff supplied by the Ghana Government would adversely affect the efficient functioning of the institutes.

38. At present both institutes are being regionalized and it is expected that the member countries will participate fully in the running of the institutes by both attending meetings of their policy organs and contributing financially to the institutes. The prospects for the latter do not seem very bright and an appeal is again made to the member countries to shoulder their responsibilities to these institutes.

39. It is hoped that solutions will be found and that the future of the institutes will not be jeopardised.

40. Unlike IFORD, RIPS has not been able to hold the first session of its new Governing Council. An attempt was made to hold it in December 1982 but this was not successful as most of the member countries of the Governing Council failed to attend the meeting in Accra. It is hoped that the meeting will take place early in 1984 and that the member countries will attend.

41. One major problem facing RIPS is the difficult economic situation in the host country. Both staff and students as well as the institute itself have had to contend with the shortage of basic commodities. Non-availability of food, water, stationery and other day to day necessities has disturbed normal living conditions and has made it very difficult for the students to concentrate on their studies. This has resulted in strikes by the students e.g. 27 February to 17 March 1982 and 18-25 April 1983. The major complaint of the students concerns food. The Director of RIPS has made some arrangements to import basic commodities from Lomé, Togo. However, it is not clear whether this can be done on a regular and permanent basis in view of the closure of the land borders between Togo and Ghana and the irregularity of sea transport between Accra and Lomé.

42. Due to the economic problems in the host country, there has been some lack of enthusiasm on the part of some countries to send students to RIPS. Some students also, having completed the general diploma course, have been unwilling to stay on for the Masters Course for the same reasons.

43. Since 9 May 1983, the University of Ghana, on whose campus RIPS is located, has been closed. RIPS however has received the permission of the Governement to carry on its normal operations. However with the University administration functioning on a part time basis, with only one hall of residence open to RIPS students and with no catering facilities available, the situation is far from normal.

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REPORT ON POPULATION ACTIVITIES IN 1982-1983 AND PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1984-1985

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Report on Population Activities in 1982-1983 and Programme of work for 1984-1985

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The period 1982-1983 like the previous biennium 1980-1981 was marked by both definite progress in the perception of population problems by African Governments and even greater limitation of resources available for consolidating achievements and making further progress. The decrease in real terms of the financial resources accorded by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities has resulted in a reduction in staff.

2. However, the secretariat's programme of work has continued, as in the past, to focus on information aimed at fostering greater awareness of the long- and short-term consequences of demographic trends, assistance to Governments in analysing demographic data and integrating population variables in development planning and assistance in achieving self-sufficiency in population activities by training African nationals in both the regional institutes financed by the United Nations, national training institutions and provision of in-service training to middle level personnel in the field of population.

3. Secretariat activities have continued to be carried out in a climate of extreme austerity, making it impossible to implement certain recommendations of the UNFPA evaluation mission which had acknowledged the need to increase resources and personnel. This situation has also caused delays or suspension in implementation of several projects planned in the programme of work.

4. It has therefore been necessary to evaluate the entire programme of work and its direction in the light of the low level of resources available for the increasing regional needs resulting from greater official awareness of the progress achieved in the availability of data to be analysed and of the establishment of new institutions with special responsibility for population issues.

II. PROGRESS REPORT, 1982-1983

A. RESEARCH AND STUDIES

5. During the period under review, the secretariat carried out a number of research projects and studies in the framework of implementing the progress of work that had been considered and approved during preceding conferences and adopted for implementation by the Conference of Ministers.

6. Reserach activities of the ECA Population Division have led to the completion of a number of documents, some of which were submitted to various meetings. Studies completed during this period include

A. Socio-economic Aspects

(i) The Population Division in collaboration with the ECA/FAO Agriculture Division, prepared a paper on Food Production and Population Growth in Africa.

B. Population Policies and Development Planning Programmes

(i) A comparative review of African Government's views on objectives, and policy instruments in the field of population and development;

(ii) The secretariat also carried out a study on manpower policies in relation to population trends.

C. Family Planning

Three studies on the demographic, health, economic and social impacts of family planning in selected African countries were undertaken, these are as follows:

(i) Family size preferences and child spacing patterns in Zambia;

(ii) Knowledge, practice and attitude to birth regulation among Zambian women;

(iii) Breast-feeding and sexual abstinence in Zambia.

D. Fertility and mortality levels, patterns and trends and their implications for socio-economic development

I. Technical publications on the relationships of infant and childhood mortality to fertility levels and patterns in African countries

(i) Mortality levels, patterns and differentials in Zambia;

(ii) Fertility levels, patterns and differentials in Zambia;

(iii) Marriage patterns and change in Zambia;

(iv) Body, height, and nutrition of Zambian children under five years of age;

(v) The influence of development related changes on infant and childhood mortality in Africa.

II. Technical publications on fertility and mortality, levels, trends and differentials in selected African countries

(i) Mortality levels, patterns and trends in Africa: comparative analysis in four selected East African countries;

(ii) Mortality levels, patterns and trends in Africa: comparative analysis in four selected West African countries;

(iii) Construction of life tables for selected African countries;

(iv) Marriage and fertility in Africa.

E. Population distribution migration, urbanization trends and their relationships to socio-economic development

(i) International migration in Africa

F. Population Projections including evaluation, adjustment and analysis of demographic data

(i) Population estimates and projections for the 50 ECA member States (1982 round);

(ii) Demographic Handbook for Africa (1980);

(iii) Demographic trends and policies in ECA member States, 1970-2000.

(iv) Levels, patterns, consequences and trends of urbanization in ECA member States;

(v) Implication of population trends for investment in education in ECA member States;

(vi) The problem of adjusting errors in age-sex data from censuses in African countries.

B. NATIONAL SEMINARS

7. Assistance to countries for the organization of national seminars has continued. The seminars scheduled for the Lesotho, Ivory Coast and Zambia were held and gave rise to reports.

8. Feedback seminar on Interrelationships among Infant and Childhood Mortality, Socio-economic Factors and Fertility in Zambia, was the first national seminar held in April 1982 in Kabwe, Zambia.

8. The seminar presented the results of the national survey undertaken jointly by ECA and Government of Zambia. These results were discussed by national experts working in the fields of health, education, social welfare, socio-economic planning and policy makers from the central policy making organs of the national party and government. The seminar made a series of recommendations aimed at launching an action programme to reduce current high levels of infant and childhood mortality and improve maternal and paternal care. The proceedings of the seminar are being published.

10. The Second National Seminar on Population and Development which was held in August 1982 in Maseru, Lesotho, was funded by United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). The seminar discussed the results of the 1974 Population census, the 1977 fertility survey and the 1978/79 labour force-migration enquiry. The participants identified that the accelerating rate of population growth, that of labour force and resulting out-migration of job seekers required that policy makers should act to reverse the trend. The seminar was attended by policy makers, planners and experts from neighbouring countries in the region and international organizations. The proceedings of the seminar have been published.

11. The last National Seminar on Population and Development, which was held in Abidjan, Ivory Coast in December 1982 was organized jointly by ECA and the Government of Ivory Coast with financial support from UNFPA. It discussed the relationships between population and development planning and recommended actions in integration of population in planning process. The proceedings of the seminar have been published.

C. ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF INFORMATION AND EXCHANGE

12. The secretariat has continued to receive, either free of charge or by purchasing them, those documents which it considers to be of interest to readers and has distributed them throughout the region. Among them are Division publications which continued to appear regularly as planned. The African Population Newsletter, the African Population Studies Series, newly introduced Demographic and Related Socio-economic Data Sheets for ECA member States were all distributed during the period under review.

13. The reorganization of the documentation service of the Population Division has continued in order to improve and expand its service. However, under present circumstances it appears difficult to forecast how much assistance UNFPA might provide. The work of the documentation service has already been reorganized in anticipation of the expansion recommended by ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 366(XIV) adopted at its fifth meeting held at Rabat, Morocco. It is planned that the United Nations Population Network for African (POPIN Africa) should be established soon in the Population Division subject to funding.

14. The planned expansion will also depend on the interest expressed in it by member States. In this respect, the secretariat appeals once again for articles of a general nature from local press dealing with various aspects of population issues in order to publish them in its Newsletters, study series and other publications of the Division.

D. ADVISORY SERVICES

15. The secretariat has continued to provide assistance to countries which have requested it in carrying out various activities and in particular questionnaire design, tabulation plan, demographic data evaluation and analysis. Among countries received assistance are Botswana, Central African Republic, Comoros, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mali, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

16. Missions were undertaken to Libya and Sudan to advise the census and statistics departments on the proposed census questionnaire and to prepare tabulation programmes and analytical framework in consultation with data census officials and potential users. These services were given to countries like Botswana, Central African Republic, Comoros, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

17. Assistance was rendered to Kenya and Tanzania in the evaluation and analyses of their lattest census and in the preparation of analytical volumes. Advice was given to Zaire, Gabon, Zimbabwe and Tanzania in the preparation of population projections.

18. Missions were undertaken to evaluate the pilot vital registration units in Tanzania and set up a vital registration system in Comoros. A project document for Comoros has been resubmitted to UNFPA for funding.

19. The UNFPA requested the services of the Population Division for evaluation and programming needs assessment missions to Ivory Coast and to regional demographic institutions, RIPS and IFORD in connection with regionalization.

E. MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, EXPERT GROUPS AND SEMINARS

1. Technical preparatory committee of the whole and Eighth Meeting of ECA Conference of Ministers in Tripoli, Expert Group Meeting on Population, 14-30 April, 1982.

2. Feedback seminar of joint ECA/Government of Zambia on interrelationships among infant and childhood mortality, socio-economic factors and fertility in Zambia, Kabwe, Zambia, 18-24, 1982.

3. Aspects of Population Change and Development Implications for policy and research, organized by Sudan National Population Committee, Khartoum, Sudan, 26-29 April, 1982.

4. Consultative Meeting on ECA Population Information Network Activities, organized by ECA Population Division, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 14-16 June, 1982.

5. Third Meeting of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and the First Meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 20 June - 2 July, 1982.

6. Seminar/workshop on Population Information and Documentation in Africa; organized by RIPS/PIDSA, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 12-16 July, 1982.

7. National Seminar on Population and Development, organized by ECA/ Government of Ivory Coast, Abidjan, Ivory Coast, 13-18 December, 1982.

8. Seminarie National sur les Politiques de Population; Bamako, Mali, 22-26 March, 1983.

9. Population, Resources, Environment and Development held at Geneva, 25-29 April, 1983.

10. Seminar on Application of Demographic Data in Development Planning, Moscow State University in USSR, 21 August to 4 September, 1983.

11. Preparatory Committee Meeting for the Second African Population Conference, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 14-16 June, 1982.

12. Council of Plenipotentiaries, North African MULPOC, Tangiers, Morocco, 1-4 March, 1982.

13. Interagency Working Group on Demographic Estimates and Projections, Geneva, Switzerland, 6-20 November, 1982.

14. Mission on Population Projections, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, 5-13 February, 1983.

15. African Nutrition Congress, Ibadan, Nigeria 28 February - 4 March, 1983.

16. Seminar on Nigeria's Population Dynamics, Zaria, Nigeria, 28 February - 4 March, 1983.

17. Experts meeting of the North African MULPOC, Tangiers, Morocco, 17-19 March, 1983.

18. Expert Group Meeting on Population Distribution, Migration and Development, Hammamet, Tunisia, 21-25 March, 1983.

F. DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO MEETINGS, SEMINAR, CONFERENCES

1. "Food Production and Population Growth in Africa" in collaboration with ECA/FAO Agriculture Division, 1982 (for Expert Group Meeting on PRED);

2. "Demographic Trends and Population Policies in Africa - 1983" (for USSR Seminar);

3. "Demographic content of African Development Plans 1983" (for USSR Seminar);

4. "Lesotho - A demographic, socio-economic profile", National Seminar on Population and Development Planning, 26-28 August, 1982.

5. "Lessons learnt from the 1970 round of census and surveys in Lesotho", National Seminar on Population and Development Planning, Lesotho, 26-28 August, 1982.

6. Population data requirements and their application in health planning, USSR Seminar, 1983.

7. "Causes and consequences of internal migration", volume on migration being prepared by ECA Statistics Division, 1982.

8. "Labour force and migration in Lesotho", National Seminar on the report of ILO/JASPA, Lesotho, 24-27 May 1983.

9. Family-Household structure and change in Zambia.

10. Body, Height and Nutrition of Zambian Children under five years of age

11. Methodology

12. Some Aspects of Migration in the Development of Zambia.

13. Mortality levels, patterns and differentials in Zambia.

14. Marriage patterns and change in Zambia.

15. Breast feeding and sexual abstinence in Zambia.

16. Food and feeding patterns and habits in Zambia.

17. Fertility levels, patterns and differentials in Zambia.

18. Family size preferences and child spacing patterns in Zambia.

19. Availability and use of medical facilities in Zambia.

20. Knowledge, practice and attitude to birth regulations among Zambian women.

21. Marriage and fertility in Africa.

22. The influence of development related changes on infant and childhood mortality in Africa.

23. Mortality levels, patterns and trends; a comparative analysis for selected East African countries.

24. Mortality levels, patterns and trends, a comparative analysis for selected West African countries.

25. Life tables for selected African countries.

26. Establishment of Population Information Network for Africa (POPIN-Africa) some Guidlines for consideration.

27. Long term consequences of migration between the Maghreb countries and Western Europe.

28. Overview of Population and Socio-economic Development in Africa.

29. Techniques of population estimation.

30. Progress report on a study of population migration and development in the Maghreb countries.

31. Migration population distribution and development in Africa.

32. "Relation entre population et developpement: une approche methodologique pour l'Afrique.

G. TRAINING AND RESEARCH

1. During the period under review, a staff member of the Population Division delivered lecutres at the East African Statistical Training Centre, Dar-es-Salaam as part of the ECA's backstopping activities in demographic training.

2. The Division in collaboration with Central Statistical Office, Zanzibar organized an in-service training course for middle level personnel working in statistical institutions in Tanzania. Three staff members gave lectures to the participants. A work book containing proceedings of the workshop is being published.

3. A staff member in the Division also gave lectures in demography to middle level personnel of the Ethiopia Pensions and Social Security Authority, in collaboration with ECA Statistics Division.

4. During the period 1982-1983, the ECA secretariat continued to be fully responsible for the management of the two demographic training institutes, namely the Institut de Formation et de Recherche Demographiques (IFORD) and the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS). This responsibility was assumed by the secretariat during 1980-1981, pursuant to General Assemly Resolution 32/179.

5. In accordance with the Conference of Ministers resolutions 367(XIV), 393(XV) and 426(XVI), the regionalization of IFORD and RIPS in progressing. The 11th meeting of the IFORD Governing Council and its session of the new Governing Council as defined by the new statutes of the Institute, was held in June 1982. An attempt was also made to hold the first session of the new Governing Council of RIPS in December 1982. The next meeting is scheduled to take place in 1984.

The amended statutes for both Institutes were approved by the Eight Meeting of the Conference of Ministers held in Tripoli in April 1982 and adopted by decision 37/444 of 21 December 1982 by the General Assembly of the United Nations. The statutes provide for the regionalization of both Institutes.

Both IFORD and RIPS continued their training activities. At IFORD, the main training activity continued to be a two-year course leading to the Diplome d'Etudes Demographiques. At RIPS steps are being taken to transform the General Deplona in Demography into Master of Arts degree and the Master of Arts degree into a Master of Philosophy degree. Since its establishment IFORD has trained 120 graduate students whilst RIPS has trained more than 200 students at the diploma level, of whom 80 students have taken the Master of Arts course.

IFORD, continued its research and publication activities. Surveys on infant and child mortality have been carried out in five African cities. The analysis of the data collected will be undertaken during the next four years. The African Demographic Liaison Bulletin, which is the only regular publication of the institute, continued to be published. RIPS continued its research and documentation collection and publication activities. The African Demography, PIDSA Newsletter and PIDSA Abstracts continued to be published.

III. PROGRAMME OF WORK 1984-1985 WITH PROJECTION UP TO 1989

A. Programme Objectives

This programme has three subprogrammes whose respective objectives during the plan period 1984-1989 will be as follows:

SUBPROGRAMME 1. POPULATION POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The objectives of this subprogramme are to assist Governments of member countries in the formulation and implementation of effective population policies and in the integration of population variables into development planning; to promote consideration in the development planning process of the interactions between economic and social development issues and such issues as population structure, movements and changes.

SUBPROGRAMME 2. DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS IN THE CONTEXT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The objectives of this subprogramme are to develop, test and apply techniques of demographic research within the context of socio-economic development in Africa and to study and evaluate factors responsible for demographic trends and structural changes, especially those factors related to the social and economic situation and national characteristics.

SUBPROGRAMME 3. REGIONAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH

The objective of this subprogramme is to assist Governments in the training of personnel for work in population and in the use of the research facilities and advisory services.

B. Work Programme

SUBPROGRAMME 1. POPULATION POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

1.1 Advisory services to countries and territories

Final Output:

Advisory services to member States in the formulation and implementation of relevant population policies in the integration of population variables in development planning and in evaluation of family planning programmes (two countries in 1984 and two countries in 1985).

1.2 Assessment of population policies in socio-economic development planning in Africa

Final Output:

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on a review of population policies in Africa (fourth quarter 1984).

1.3 Evaluation of the demographic impact of population programmes in African countries

Final Output:

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on comparative analysis on the effect of family planning programmes on fertility, maternal and child mortality in six African countries (fourth quarter 1985).

1.4 Evaluation of population redistribution policies and programmes in selected African countries

Final Output:

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on an evaluation of population redistribution policies and programmes in selected African countries (Second Quarter 1985).

1.5 The integration of population variables and policies in development plans

Final Output:

(i) Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on the African experience in integrating population variables and policies in development plans (fourth quarter 1985),

(ii) Substantive servicing of national seminars on the integration of population variables in development plans (one seminar in 1984 and one seminar in 1985).

SUBPROGRAMME 2: DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS IN THE CONTEXT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Programme elements:

2.1 Advisory services to countries and territories on census and survey data analysis

Final Output:

Advisory services to member States, on request in evaluating and analysing data from population censuses, surveys and vital registration systems; (two countries in 1984 and two in 1985) and providing on-the-job training for nations in demographic analysis; (two countries in 1984 and two in 1985).

2.2 Fertility levels, patterns, differentials and trends in selected African countries

(i) Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on fertility levels, patterns, differentials and trends in African countries and their policy implications (fourth quarter 1984),

(ii) One regional training workshop on techniques of fertility and mortality analysis for 30 participants from selected countries (fourth quarter of 1985).

2.3 Family formation, structure and fertility in selected African countries

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on social, cultural and economic determinants of family structure and formation and their influence on fertility, infertility and subfertility in selected African countries (third quarter of 1985).

2.4 Mortality levels, patterns, differentials and trends in selected African countries

Final Output:

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on comparative study of regional and socio-economic group variation in mortality in Africa (fourth quarter of 1984).

2.5 Inter-relationships among infant and childhood mortality socio-economic factors and fertility in selected African countries

Final Output:

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on infant and childhood mortality in Africa including the influence of breast feeding on fertility and infant mortality (fourth quarter 1985).

2.6 Population projections including evaluation, adjustment and analysis of demographic data for the African region

Final output:

(i) Technical publication: Demographic Handbook for Africa (fourth quarter 1984),

(ii) Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on population projections and policies for the ECA member States (fourth quarter 1985),

(iii) One regional training workshop on population projections for 30 participants from selected countries (first quarter 1985).

2.7 Trends in subregional variations in population distribution and urbanization in Africa and their effects on agricultural and industrial development

Final Output:

Report to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on subregional variations and trends in population distribution and urbanization as well as their effects on agricultural and industrial development in the African region (fourth quarter 1985).

2.8 Population information and clearinghouse services

Final Output:

(i) Technical publications: Two issues of the African Population Newsletter per year; (one in 1984 and one in 1985). One issue of the African Population Studies Series in 1985; two issues of Annotated Bibliographies on Population (one in 1984 and one in 1985),

(ii) One training workshop on population information and documentation (third quarter 1984).

SUBPROGRAMME 3: REGIONAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH

Programme elements:

3.1 Technical support to the substantive and administrative activities of the regional population studies institutes

Final Output:

Assistance to the substantive and administrative activities of the regional population studies and institutes: The following activities are carried out throughout the year:

(a) the identification and selection of about 30 candidates for UNFPA fellowships in demographic training at RIPS and IFORD,

(b) reviewing and making proposals on the budgets of the United Nations regional Demographic Training and Research Institutes and identifying donors for their research and related activities;

(c) Backstopping training programmes and research activities of these institutes;

(d) Performing supportive services related to the organization of Governing Council and Advisory Board Meetings recruitment of staff, preparation of budget submissions and disbursement of resources in collaboration with ECA Division of Administration and Technical Assistance Co-ordination and Operations Office.